

Appl. No. 10/074,480  
Amdt. dated January 31, 2005  
Reply to Office action of September 8, 2004

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

Please amend the drawings by replacing the original drawing sheets showing FIGS. 2 and 4 with the appended replacement sheets showing FIGS. 2 and 4.

**REMARKS**

This amendment responds to the office action dated September 8, 2004.

The Examiner objected to the drawings because reference numeral 136 referred to both a GUI and a call routine in FIG. 4, reference numeral 130 was omitted from the drawings, and reference numeral 54, which was shown in FIG. 2, was not mentioned in the description. The applicant has submitted corrected FIGS. 2 and 4 that correct these deficiencies.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Buckley, et al., U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2002/0049079 A1. As noted by the Examiner, that reference discloses answering an incoming call in response to interaction at a user interface, i.e. flipping a switch at a user interface. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the claim limitation of “if said connection state is disconnected, answering said incoming call in response to a change in said connection state.” This limitation is not disclosed by Buckley, et al., which, if a connection state of a selectively connectable voice interface is disconnected, requires that a user flip a switch to answer an incoming call, whether or not the connection state has changed. Claim 1 therefore distinguishes over Buckley and the Examiner’s rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 2-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Buckley, et al. and Ishida, U.S. Patent No. 6,195,570 B1. Ishida discloses that a call may be terminated upon disconnection of a headset and a menu screen thereafter displayed on a user interface. The Examiner contends that the termination of a call is would “alert” the user that the headset was disconnected. At the outset, the Applicant notes that, because the rejected claims are method claims, the Examiner’s rejection is improper. Ishida does not teach the step of “alerting” the user of the disconnected state; rather, Ishida assumes that the user has intentionally disconnected the headset and thus the resulting display of the menu screen is simply a convenience to the user who then does not need to do it manually. Thus, at no point does Ishida “alert” the user of the disconnected state because Ishida assumes that the user is already aware of it.

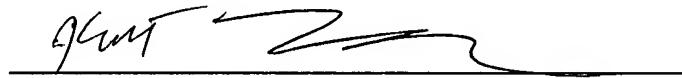
In any event, independent claim 2, from which claims 3-5 depend, and independent claim 6 each recite the original limitation of “originating a request for said call in

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response to a user command”, the amended limitation of “detecting a connection state of said voice interface at the time of said request”, and the original limitation of “if *said connection state* is disconnected, alerting said user of said disconnected state.” (emphasis added). The cited combination does not disclose these limitations. At best, the combination would disclose the termination of a call upon *the action of disconnecting* a headset during a conversation, hence *after* the request for a call. Thus in the cited combination, the termination of the call, i.e. what the examiner considers an “alert,” is unrelated to the connection *state* at the prior time when the request to initiate a call occurred.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicant request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**APPENDIX**

Attached to this appendix are replacement drawing sheets showing corrected FIGS. 2 and 4.